



*"People
helping people
help
themselves"*

MICHAEL R. PENCE., GOVERNOR
STATE OF INDIANA

Division of Aging

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Division of Aging Update

Pre-Admission Screening Resident Review (PASRR)

Indiana's pre-admission screening (PAS) requirements were created over thirty years ago amid concerns that individuals were being placed in nursing facilities with little consideration for whether or not a nursing facility was the appropriate care setting for a person's needs or the availability of home and community-based services. Home and community-based care is the first choice for many individuals with long-term care needs. It also aids states in addressing obligations under the Supreme Court's [Olmstead decision](#), which found that the unjustified institutionalization of persons with disabilities violates the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Division of Aging (DA) has been working with the Area Agencies on Aging, nursing facilities, hospitals, and other stakeholders over the past six months to design a person-centered PASRR system that effectively and efficiently identifies the most appropriate services and settings for individuals. The current state statute for PAS (IC 12-10-12) will sunset in June of 2016.

The DA believes a new system can be designed without introducing a new statute by relying on existing federal requirements (PASRR), further ensuring that individuals receiving Medicaid-paid nursing facility care meet the appropriate level of care needs. We are currently working with a software development company that specializes in working with states on PASRR compliance, to implement the new system by July 1, 2016.

To read more about the framework of the system re-design and how it came to be, please see the [PASRR report](#), which was submitted to the Indiana legislature on November 1, 2015.

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Network Development

ADRC grants:

In the spring of 2015, the DA made short-term, one-time grant monies available to existing ADRCs to address two targeted areas: building community partnerships and/or building a local resource database for the state's future network development. Each ADRC submitted at least one proposal and the DA funded 14 projects, which will be completed by April of 2016. Creation



of sustainable methods of maintaining public awareness of the ADRC network and finding ongoing funding sources for its development is essential for Indiana's long-term care rebalancing plans.

ADRC marketing and branding:

The DA has also procured assistance with marketing and branding of the ADRC network to create an identity for the network and improve consumer awareness. Training will be provided to ADRC staff on how to take advantage of local marketing opportunities and deliver a consistent message on behalf of the network.

We have also secured technical assistance to assist in assessing the strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats to the network as well as to improve consistency of the process and consumer experience across the network. Standard operating protocols will be created or modified from existing practices for many common interactions with consumers.

New faces in the Division of Aging

Vanessa Convard has been with the state of Indiana since 2002, spending several years with the Department of Corrections in its school at the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. She then worked with the Department of Child Services in a variety of capacities, most recently as a trainer/program director. Vanessa joined Adult Protective Services (APS) in the DA as the new Program Coordinator in mid-September, 2015.

After graduating from Indiana University with a Political Science Degree in 2010, **Veronica Malocha** worked with the state of Indiana as a human services and eligibility consultant before joining the DA in May 2015 as the Residential Care Assistance Program (RCAP) Program Manager. (And yes, we admit we are a little late in announcing Veronica's arrival in the DA, but that does not mean she is any less special.)

Joining the DA in October 2015 as the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Transitions Manager, **Gaye Summit** has worked in a variety of capacities in the aging and nursing facility world. Beginning with the Lafayette AAA (Area 4!) a number of years ago, she also has experience as a nursing facility Certified Nursing Assistant and in activities/social services departments. Prior to coming to the DA, she was a licensed nursing facility administrator for over 25 years.

We also welcome **LaVenia Sykes**, who joined the DA in November 2015 to conduct waiver provider certifications. She came to us from the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning where she served as Executive Assistant to the Medicaid Director for over twenty years. LaVenia has over 25 years with the state altogether.

Sadly, one face is leaving us the first week of December. **Kayla Hickox** will be joining the state's Attorney General's Office in its Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. As the DA's Grants Analyst, Kayla has had a tremendous impact on our grant compliance activities. Her accounting background, consistency and logic, and attention to detail have transformed how we approach claims review

and grant monitoring activities. She will be greatly missed. Sniff. But apparently there will be donuts.